The Entrance Of The Theotokos

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Due Date for December Bulletin
Thursday, November 10th

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
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Come and See’ God’s Grace in Thanksgiving
Fr. Thomas Chininis
St. Philip Church, Nashua, NH

The first time the early pilgrims gathered for a day of thanksgiving it was a remembrance of life and grace. In the Spring of 1621, after enduring a bitter winter that brought illness and death to nearly half of the 102 settlers, those who remained learned how to survive in their new homeland; how to hunt, farm, and cook, from several natives. Their diligence and hard work helped prepare them for the coming winter. Much of what they would need for the cold months ahead would be stored away. In celebration and relief the settlers called their community together to thank God for the bounty they received and the opportunity to seek a new life with religious freedom. The celebration we offer today is far from what was offered in 1621, but the central theme remains the same. Thanksgiving was a celebration of life and gratitude for the pilgrims; they came together to give witness to God’s grace.

There are two points that we need to examine. First, the pilgrims in pursuit of religious freedoms seemed to heed the words of Philip when he spoke to Nathaniel, ‘Come and see’ (Jn 1:43). Though their expression of faith is not consistent with our expression of faith as Orthodox Christians, we look to their desire and hope to find a place in which they could worship in freedom; that they would be able to ‘come’ together in hope of ‘seeing’ God in their lives and find shelter and consolation in Him. As Orthodox we should take notice of their deep the rich tools and opportunities that the Church provides us to ‘come and see’.

Secondly, the pilgrims’ expression of life and gratitude found in Thanksgiving is central to Orthodoxy. The earliest and most distinctive expression of Christian worship is the Holy Eucharist. In Greek, Eucharist means literally, thanksgiving. By definition, then, the Holy Eucharist is the ultimate expression of thanksgiving by God’s people. The Divine Liturgy gathers the faithful today as Christ gathered his disciples around the table in the upper room where he lifted up the bread and wine in prayer and is offered to the disciples as His Body and Blood. These Gifts provide sustenance for our souls. The Church gathered then, as it continues to do so today, to celebrate life in Christ experienced in this world and to foretaste the world yet to come experienced in the Divine Thanksgiving.

Today, as we gather at our Thanksgiving tables in remembrance of the first day of thanksgiving offered by the Pilgrims, let us also ‘come and see’ the blessings that God has bestowed upon us and give thanks to Him. Let us remember the very first Thanksgiving gathering… the gathering of Christ and his disciples in the upper room. As we do so, Thanksgiving becomes more than a big feast focused on food, it becomes for us a prayer of thanksgiving for God’s grace in our life and an opportunity for us to ‘come and see’.

Our St. Methodios Faith & Heritage Center is a beacon of our Faith Heritage in our Metropolis and throughout the Archdiocese. By becoming a Ministry Partner with a donation of $10 per month, you can help keep this beacon of hope and vision burning brightly.

- $10 per month will help insure that our Youth Programs, including the Summer and Winter Camps will continue making a difference in the lives of our children and young adults.
- $10 per month will help us develop programs for Parish Councils, Philoptochos Societies, Senior Citizens, Catechetical and Greek School Teachers, and Choirs.
- $10 per month will help us open the embrace of Orthodoxy to brethren of all Faiths.

Please become a Ministry Partner and make a difference in the lives of young and old alike.

Enroll in the St. Methodios Faith & Heritage Center Ministry Partner program (On the online donation form be sure to mark your donation for the Ministry Partner program).
As autumn rapidly progresses, we will soon find ourselves at the doorstep of the Christmas season. For many, this means gearing up for heavy-duty shopping due to what is seen by many as the emphasis of Christmas – the exchanging of gifts. For party-minded people, their focus is mainly on food and drink (and usually an excessive consumption of both), as well as other forms of merriment. There are also many people who only see this time of year as a “warm and fuzzy” period, focused on family and social gatherings that include some or all of the above. Unfortunately, what is missing from all three of the above examples is the spiritual dimension of this holy season of expectation, which our Holy Orthodox Church presents to us in a very different fashion.

During the liturgical year of our Church, we prepare for many of our important feasts through a period of fasting, whether for one day, a few weeks, or forty days or more, as in the case of Great Lent and Holy Week. Commencing on November 15th, we have a forty-day period of preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Christ. The main theme of this fast period is expectation. In fact, most of our fasts serve as periods of both expectation and spiritual preparation, and in the case of Great Lent, there is the ever-present penitential dimension as well.

As I have described many times, throughout the liturgical year the Orthodox Church maintains a cycle of fasting and feasting. We even experience a mini-cycle of this through the weekly fast each Wednesday and Friday, which leads to the Sunday feast. Of course, what is meant here is primarily the banquet of Christ – the Holy Eucharist, which allows us to participate in the life of the Kingdom of Heaven while still in this world. Traditionally, Orthodox Christians throughout the world have made the Sunday family meal a special event, as an extension of the earlier festal celebration in church. If today’s Orthodox Christians were to make this weekly cycle an integral part of their lifestyle, consequently, the other fast periods would be welcomed and understood in their correct light.

With the Nativity fast we turn our focus toward the coming of the Light of the world into our hearts and our entire being. In the eyes of the Orthodox Church, it is only logical that there be a quiet and serene period of spiritual preparation for this great mystery of God becoming man. One might question this approach by saying that God has already come, has died for us, and has risen from the dead, so why should we prepare for His coming? To answer this we must turn to the liturgical wisdom of our Church, and consider the annual repetition of the events of salvation history.

Since the events in the earthly life of Christ are eternal truths, they are always with us. With each great feast, we reconnect with these events that bring us ever closer to Christ, who already resides in us. You see, human beings need reminders; we don’t simply experience important things in life and then just forget about them. So it is in the life of the Church as well. Each year, we re-live the great feasts, climaxing the year with the feast of Holy Pascha – the central feast of the Church.

Now, in terms of our own preparation for the Nativity of Christ, how each one of us seeks to spiritualize this holy season depends on our own spiritual commitment to Christ and His Holy Church. The secular world has succeeded in making this time of year quite unholy, even though this is not always evident on the surface. Yes, the stores will soon begin playing traditional Christmas carols and other seasonal songs, however, we hear these while surrounded by excessive materialism – a scene quite contradictory to the true meaning of the Lord’s birth.

As each of us seeks to grow spiritually, perhaps it will become clear that there is a better way to approach this season. Prayer and fasting are tools that can help us achieve this goal. Instead of complaining or criticizing the “strictness” of our Church traditions, we could attempt to comprehend the benefits of a spiritual approach to the feast of the Nativity through a change of heart. Once the feast arrives, then we should truly celebrate and bask in the light of the newborn Christ. This is what our Church asks us to do, first and foremost, through the liturgical celebrations of the Nativity, and then by celebrating in our homes by ceasing all fasting until just before the feast of Theophany.

My beloved in Christ, as always, I attempt to motivate the spiritual growth of all through the planting of seeds given to us from the garden of our Church. The world, though, will not seek to tend the garden of a heart that has been sown with spiritual seeds. We must see to this ourselves through our own relationship to Christ and His Church. Through the Nativity fast, we have an excellent opportunity to tend to the garden of our souls. I pray that we all have a fruitful and spiritual preparation for the holy Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In Christ’s love,

+Fr. Anthony

LITURGICAL REMINDER TO CHURCH MINISTRIES & OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

As His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios has always stated, there should never be simultaneous meetings or other events scheduled when liturgical services are being conducted in church. As previously announced, I am currently holding Small Vespers each Wednesday evening at 7 pm, followed by adult religious education. Please note that no church groups or fraternal organizations should schedule meetings or events on Wednesday evenings. This also applies to any other weekday when a festal vespers service is scheduled, as shown on the monthly calendar. The staff of the church office will be happy to assist you in choosing an appropriate date for meetings or other events. Thanks to all for your understanding and cooperation.
THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE

The Feast of the Entrance into the Temple of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated on November 21 each year. The Feast commemorates when as a young child, the Virgin Mary entered the Temple in Jerusalem.

The birth and early life of the Virgin Mary is not recorded in the Gospels or other books of the New Testament, however this information can be found in a work dating from the second century known as the Book of James or Protevangelion.

When Mary was three years old, Joachim and Anna decided that the time had come to fulfill their promise and to offer her to the Lord. Joachim gathered the young girls of the neighborhood to form an escort, and he made them go in front of Mary, carrying torches. Captivated by the torches, the young child followed joyfully to the Temple, not once looking back at her parents nor weeping as she was parted from them.

The holy Virgin ran toward the Temple, overtaking her attendant maidens and threw herself into the arms of the High Priest Zacharias, who was waiting for her at the gate of the Temple with the elders. Zacharias blessed her saying, "It is in you that He has glorified your name in every generation. It is in you that He will reveal the Redemption that He has prepared for His people in the last days."

Then, Zacharias brought the child into the Holy of Holies—a place where only the High Priest was permitted to enter once a year on the Day of Atonement. He placed her on the steps of the altar, and the grace of the Lord descended upon her. She arose and expressed her joy in a dance as wonder seized all who saw this happen.

The Virgin Mary dwelt in the Temple for nine years until, reaching an age for marriage, she was taken from the Temple by the priests and elders and entrusted to Joseph as the guardian of her virginity.

The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple signifies her total dedication to God and her readiness for her future vocation as the Mother of the Incarnate Lord. This is a feast of anticipation. As honor is shown to Mary, the faithful are called to look forward to the Incarnation of Christ, celebrated in a little more than a month by the Feast of the Nativity on December 25.

NATIVITY FAST BEGINS 11/15

Below are traditional and widely accepted guidelines for those who choose to follow the Church’s tradition in its fullest. These guidelines are also illustrated on your 2011 church calendar produced by our holy Archdiocese. The beginning of the Nativity Fast has approximately a one-month period of moderate fasting as follows:

- Fish, wine & olive oil are permitted daily, except for Wednesdays & Fridays (with some exceptions)
- no animal products are permitted throughout, including eggs & dairy
- shellfish is permitted daily

(Note: Our Holy Archdiocese has always waived fasting on Thanksgiving Day. Throughout any fast period, those who are infirm, expectant and nursing mothers, and growing children should follow a relaxed, minimal fast. Your spiritual father can guide you in these cases.)

Please note that the December bulletin will address the second and stricter period of the Nativity fast. May we all seek to grow spiritually through the venerable practice of fasting, as we prepare to celebrate our Lord’s birth in the flesh. Please remember that our fasting must be accompanied by increased prayer, church attendance, and charitable works, otherwise, our efforts would be in vain.

SPIRITUAL WISDOM

From the Philokalia: Evagrios the Solitary on Prayer

When Moses tried to draw near to the burning bush he was forbidden to approach until he had loosed his sandals from his feet. If, then, you wish to behold and commune with Him who is beyond sense-perception and beyond concept, you must free yourself from every impassioned thought.

Persevere with patience in your prayer, and repulse the cares and doubts that arise within you. They disturb and trouble you, and so slacken the intensity of your prayer.

Do not pray for the fulfillment of your wishes, for they may not accord with the will of God. But pray as you have been taught, saying: Thy will be done in me. Always entreat Him in this way – that His will be done. For He desires what is good and profitable for you, whereas you do not always ask for this.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All of us who are participants in today’s completely unusual solemnity clearly sense that we are eyewitnesses to a historic event which is the culmination of the present jubilee year of 1994, when the bicentennial anniversary of the coming of Orthodoxy to America is being celebrated. In the glorification of the holy hierarch John, Archbishop of Shanghai and San Francisco, with the saints, we are eyewitnesses to the special presence of the grace of God.

Looking upon all the great multitude of those who are serving and those who are praying in this church, we are truly able to testify that something out of the ordinary has stirred up the world of the faithful. We cannot recall that over these past many decades such exceptional enthusiasm has been manifested. Tell us, when have we ever seen such a number of hierarchs, priests and deacons (two hundred clergymen in all) offering up prayers to God as at the wondrous and moving services of all these solemn days? Tell us, when have we ever witnessed with our own eyes such a mass struggle of repentance for our sins as we have now observed in the hundreds of faithful approaching the holy Chalice at two and five o’clock in the morning, and at the late Liturgy? Is not this event truly a spiritual culmination, a triumph of Orthodoxy in its most beautiful manifestation? This is indeed the case, brethren and sisters, through the mercy of God, and we bear witness to this before the entire world.

We have come here to glorify one who possessed something that is essential for us, that is absent in us. Today we are glorifying Vladyka John not because he served beautifully or caused our hearts to quiver with skillful preaching. Nay! We are glorifying a man who is like unto us, a man from our own midst, of our time, in whom shines forth an image of humility, which we so greatly lack. We have seen his most profound patience, his condescension toward human weaknesses; and it is the absence of these qualities in ourselves that divides our society, that engenders enmity and mistrust. We perceive in our archpastor a sincere love for all, especially for those sick and those in error. We are smitten, and at the same time instructed, by his constant prayerful mood, which has all but vanished from the life of today’s Christians. Sensing our own poverty, yet having the resolve to correct our ways, we have come to this beautiful church as to a school of life, to learn from our Vladyka, to ask his mediation before the throne of God, that we be granted a portion of his zealous spirit.

The sick have come here in the hope of receiving healing. Here is one who has come to receive a blessing for an important decision in his life. People have come here with a profound desire to repent of their sins and misdeeds. An Orthodox girl and a young man have come to pray that they may find a worthy companion with whom it might be possible to found a good Christian family, to counterbalance that horrifying immorality into which all of humanity is so rapidly plunging. The list of petitioners is as long, as the gathering of those praying here is numerous. And so, each has come to receive mercy through the supplications of Vladyka.

Yet this is not what our now-glorified archpastor would wish to see from our side in response. As it is, he grants us mercy abundantly in answer to our unremitting requests. Vladyka wants us to offer something from ourselves, something on our part. Let us ask ourselves what we can offer the Lord God through the supplications of our holy Vladyka, to what did he call us throughout his entire life?

First of all, on the basis of the decision we make today, or, to put it better, our resolve, let us endeavor from henceforth to set in good order our relationship to the Church and our own parish. Yesterday, at the vigil service, several thousand pilgrims prayed in church, just as on the day of holy Pentecost in Jerusalem, when three thousand souls were baptized on the first day. If everyone present in church during these solemn days were to attend their own parish regularly each Sunday, as well as on the great feasts and the eves of these days, one can only imagine what spiritual power our parishes would contain! Just as today the municipal authorities have closed to automotive traffic the area adjacent to the cathedral, so would they always take our voice into consideration. And does it not depend on us to change the entrenched habit of arriving in church only for the second half of the divine services? Have we not been given the will to cease carrying on extraneous conversations during services in church? Is it not within our power, is it not to the benefit of our salvation, to study the meaning of the divine services, to come to know the depth and beauty of this magnificent spiritual treasure?...
Συναντήσεις Αρχιεπισκοπού Δήμητρου με τον Πρωθυπουργό της Τουρκίας Ερντογαν

Συναντήσεις Αρχιεπισκοπού Δήμητρου με τον Πρωθυπουργό της Τουρκίας Ερντογαν

ΝΕΑ ΥΟΡΚΗ – Ο Σεβασμιώτατος Αρχιεπίσκοπος Αμερικής κ. Δημήτριος συναντήθηκε την προηγούμενη Παρασκευή με τον Πρωθυπουργό της Τουρκίας Ρετζέπ Ταγίτ Ερντογάν κατά την διάρκεια της επίσκεψης του Τούρκου Πρωθυπουργού στη Νέα Υόρκη για τις εναρκτήριες εργασίες του Οργανισμού Ηνωμένων Εθνών. Κατά τη διάρκεια μιας συζήτησης συναντήσεως που διήρκεσε 45 λεπτά, ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος ως Έξαρχος του Οικουμενικού Όρθρου στην Αμερική, ευχάριστησε τον Τούρκο Πρωθυπουργό εκ μέρους της Ελληνικής Ορθοδόξης Αρχιεπισκοπής Αμερικής για ορισμένες θετικές ενέργειες της Τουρκικής κυβέρνησης που αφορούν το Οικουμενικό Πατριαρχείο Κωνσταντινούπολεως. Συγκεκριμένα, για την πρόσφατη απόφαση της Τουρκίας να επιστρέψει περιορισμένες ιδιοκτησίες των μειονοτήτων της Τουρκίας, για την εφαρμογή διαδικασίας με την οποία Ιεράρχες του Οικουμενικού Πατριαρχείου μπορούν να κάνουν αίτηση για την απόκτηση Τουρκικής υπηκοότητας, που έχει ως αποτέλεσμα την διεύρυνση του εκκλησιαστικού σώματος για Πατριαρχική εκλογή, για την δυνατότητα που δόθηκε στον Οικουμενικό Πατριάρχη να λειτουργεί σε διάφορους ιστορικούς ναούς και μονές της Μικράς Ασίας και του Πόντου, όπως το πρόσφατο παράδειγμα στην Παναγία Σομελά στην Τραπεζούντα και τότε για την επιστροφή του Ορφανοτροφείου της Πριγκηπίου.

Επιπλέον, ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος επανέλαβε προς τον Τούρκο Πρωθυπουργό το σταθερό αίτημα του Οικουμενικού Πατριαρχείου για την επαναλειτουργία της Θεολογικής Σχολής της Χάλκης, η οποία παραμένει κλειστή επί 40 χρόνια. Στη συζήτηση που ακολούθησε ο κ. Ερντογάν ευχάριστησε τον Αρχιεπίσκοπο για την επίσκεψή του και τον διαβέβαιωσε ότι η κυβέρνησή του θα συνεχίσει να επεξεργάζεται τα θέματα που αφορούν στα δικαιώματα του Οικουμενικού Πατριαρχείου και των άλλων μειονοτήτων της Τουρκίας.

Τον Αρχιεπίσκοπο συνόδευσαν κατά την επίσκεψή του με τον Πρωθυπουργό ο κ. Μιχάλη Τζαχάρης, αντιπρόεδρος του Αρχιεπισκοπικού Συμβουλίου, ο Ντ. Αντώνιος Λυμπεράκης, διοικητής του Τάγματος του Αγίου Άνδρεα, ο Κ. Τζον Κατσιμιάτης, προεδρείος της Επιτροπής Ορθοδοξικών Ελευθεριών του Τάγματος του Αγίου Άνδρεα, ο κ. Ντένις Μιέλ, μέλος της ως ανωπ της προτοτήτων και ο τ. Αλέξανδρος Καρλούτσος, υπηρέτης του Αρχιεπισκόπου επί Δημοσίων Σχέσεων.
## November Calendar

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<td>The Holy Anargyroi Cosmas &amp; Damian Orthros 9 am, Div. Lit. 10 am (Του Άγιων Αναργύρων)</td>
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<td>Vespers of the Holy Archangels 7 pm in Watertown</td>
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<td>Small Vespers 7 pm followed by adult relig. educ.</td>
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<td>HOPE/JOY Annual Thanksgiving Dinner (Fr. Anthony on vacation thru Monday, 10/16)</td>
<td>Veterans Day (No Vespers)</td>
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<td>Synaxis of the Holy Angels Orthros 9 am, Div. Lit. 10 am (Του Τετάρτου)</td>
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<td>Vespers of St. Neokarios 7 pm in Roslindale</td>
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<td>Taste of Greece Cooking Class 6:30 pm</td>
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PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

2011 Annual Christmas Card

It's that time of year again to send your Christmas greetings to our Parish family!

The request will be sent to your homes shortly and if you would like your name included this year please fill out the form along with a $20 donation and mail it back to the church.

Preparation for this project takes a great deal of time so please make your donations now before the busy holiday season approaches.

GENERAL MEETING

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 1st at 7:00 pm in the church lounge. Hope to see you all there!

KOLIVA

For Koliva please call the church office at 508-559-0910. We would appreciate one week's notice in advance of the memorial service to prepare your koliva. The cost is $85 and checks should be made payable to the Philoptochos Society.

SHUT IN VISITATIONS

Anyone who would like a visit from the Ladies of Philoptochos, or knows of someone who would like some company, please contact our chairlady Soultana Kotsiopoulos at 508-584-8838.

UPCOMING COOKING CLASSES

- **Nov. 3rd**
  - Chicken Lemon Soup, Spanikopita, Baklava

- **Nov. 17**
  - Scorthalia, Fish Plaki, Horta, Finikia

- **Dec. 1**
  - Baked Lamb, Fasolakia, Rice, Rice Pudding

- **Dec. 15**
  - Baked Chicken, Dolmathes, Lemon Potatoes, Broccoli in Lemon Sauce, Ek-Mek

You may register online or in the church office. Classes are $40 per person.

The Ladies Philoptochos Society is off to a great start! We held our first meeting of the year last month. We enjoyed a potluck supper and welcomed everyone back.

We also held our first cooking classes that were taught by Haido Barbas. The participants learned how to prepare delicious Greek dishes and enjoyed a sit down dinner. The next class will be held on Thursday November 3rd and will be taught by Vasiliki Palantzas. (see our photos below)

We are pleased to announce that our sister Eleni Stamboulidis has joined the Diocese Board of the Ladies Philoptochos Society. We wish her luck in her new endeavor!

Please join us for our next meeting on Tuesday, November 1st at 7:00 pm where we will be discussing the Annual Christmas Luncheon and Giant Toy Raffle scheduled for Sunday December 11th and making arrangements for our Christmas Party. I hope you can attend the upcoming meeting or join us for any of our events.

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May God bless you and your families at your Thanksgiving gatherings.

Sincerely,

Despina Papadopoulos

President
YOUTH NEWS

GOYA NEWS

GOYA has a great deal of events planned for the upcoming month, with the most prominent of these being the annual GOYA Sunday Bake Sale on November 20th. Please refer to the upcoming events section of the bulletin.

In other news, GOYA also held its elections for organization officers on the 16th of October, a truly important event because it is the first election to include a true president and vice president. Congratulations to the following individuals for their momentous triumph:

President: Nikoletta Evangelatos
Vice President: Shawn Westcott
Corresponding Secretary: Stephan Maranian
Recording Secretary: Periklis Sarakiniotis (yours truly)
Treasurer: Teli Efremidis

Keep your eyes and ears open, for this year, the GOYA will continue to impress!

Sincerely,
Periklis Georgios Sarakiniotis
Recording Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, November 6th</td>
<td>GOYA Monthly Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dance Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 10th</td>
<td>HOPE/JOY Thanksgiving Feast</td>
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<td>Sunday, November 13th</td>
<td>Godparent Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, November 18th</td>
<td>GOYA Fun Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, November 20th</td>
<td>GOYA Sunday Bake Sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, December 9th</td>
<td>HOPE/JOY Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, December 11th</td>
<td>GOYA Christmas Baskets Items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Due/Wrapping Gifts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday December 15th</td>
<td>Christmas Retreat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, December 18th</td>
<td>Sunday School Christmas Pageant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, December 23rd</td>
<td>Greek School Christmas Pageant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DANCE NEWS

Our AGOC Dancers will be performing at the Godparent Sunday Luncheon on November 13th! Don’t miss the show! We have continued to increase our membership over the course of this new school year and are excited for our new dancers to show off their skills at the Godparent Sunday performance.

Practices through the end of this calendar year are as follows:

November 6th

**PERFORMANCE at the Godparent Sunday Luncheon on November 13th**

December 4, 11th

*These dates there are also GOYA meetings; senior dancers should report to GOYA first on these dates, and will join practices for the second hour.

ALL CHILDREN OF OUR PARISH, AGES 5-18 ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!

YOUTH BASKETBALL

Together with St. Catherine's of Braintree the second year of the youth basketball season through the Metropolis will be underway soon. All boys ages 7-18 are welcome. New program and new coaches! The season starts in November. Ages 7-14 year olds play on Saturday’s and 15-18 on Sunday’s. For more information and sign ups, please go on-line to Annunciationbrockton.org as soon as possible.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will be collecting toys for needy children in the Brockton area. We do this in lieu of a Christmas gift exchange among the students. Toy collecting will begin on Sunday, November 13th and will be ending on Sunday, December 18th. The collection receptacle will be in the Sunday School hallway across from the Kindergarten and Nursery school classrooms. We ask that the toys be new in their original boxes and not wrapped.

If anyone has any questions they may contact Dina Coon.

H.O.P.E./J.O.Y.

Please join us for our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 12th at 6:30. Dinner will be provided, your donation of beverage or dessert would be appreciated. Please rsvp to the church office at 508-559-0910 or Paula at 508-930-2538 by November 5th.
YOUTH NEWS

HOPE/JOY Pumpkin Decorating

CONTACTS FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS

ALTAR BOYS
Father Anthony
priest@AnnunciationBrockton.org

BASKETBALL
Steve Passias
passias@comcast.net

DANCE GROUP
Penny Buterbaugh
pnasios@nasiosandgalloway.com

GREEK SCHOOL
Jon Buterbaugh
jbuterbaughjr@gmail.com

JUNIOR CHOIR
Heidi Mason
heidim50@aol.com

ORATORICAL FESTIVAL
Rhoda Economos
508-587-4907

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Dina Coon
coon005@aol.com

H.O.P.E./J.O.Y
Paula Tsitsopoulos
gtsitsop@comcast.net

G.O.Y.A.
Jon Buterbaugh
jbuterbaughjr@gmail.com

YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM
annunciationymt@yahoo.com
DONATIONS

Memorial Donations as of October 19th

Two Gold-plated Candlesticks for Sacrament/Memorial Table - Six month remembrance in loving memory of Elias Papadopoulos from Penny, Andrea, Maria, Steve & Kathy Papadopoulos

John Sarantakos
- Donna Meaney $20

Antonia Tontodonato
- George Panagoulopoulos $30
- Victoria Hastiopoulos $30

Dorothea Gatsulis
- Pauline & Roxanne Pappas $100

Peter Mihos-10 years
- James & Linda Mihos $500

James & Mary Lantzos
- Mr. & Mrs. Romolo DeBaggis $100

Effie Siogros
- Steve Siogros $200
- Van Siogros $100
- Joyce Siogros Pepi $200

Paul Anagnoston
- Mr. and Mrs. John Persson $50

James Skenas
- Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dwyer $25
- Mr. & Mrs. John Poutsiaka $100

Peter Hasomeris
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bartlett $25
- Joseph Krowski Esq. $100

Ernestine Pappas
- Peter Pappas $100

2011 Festival Donations

Charlie Frangakis Dunkin Donuts Coffee
Chris Coutsoumbos 15 cases water
Stella Coutsoumbos Children's Corner Expenses
Lori Stasiewski Children's Corner Expenses
Avraam Vardaxis $50
Arthur Adamopoulos $100
TA Spatola $1000
Tom Sedell Beer & Wine for Festival & Picnic
James P. Mihos All soda and bar items
Divi & Tamarijin Aruba $1,412 toward inclusive package for two

Other Donations
Russell and Pica Funeral Home $1,092
2012 Church Calendars

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS

October 2
- Ioannis Petros
Son of Peter & Irene Anastasiou
Godparent Elaine Follo

October 9
- Andreas
Son of Philip & Anastasia Cefalo
Godparent Nicole Bostic

October 16
- Constantinos
Son of Thomas & Deborah Sedell
Godparent Tom Dinopoulos

WEDDINGS

October 22
- Evangelos Siamantouras & Debby Parkinson
Sponsor—Panagiotis Ellinas

FUNERALS

October 15
- Demetra Stratoudakis

October 17
- James Skenas

May Their Memory Be Eternal
ONLINE BILL PAY
Now a convenient new way to fulfill your stewardship.
Available on our website
www.annunciationbrockton.org

HOLY CONFESSION
Every Saturday after Great Vespers or during office hours by appointment.

COFFEE HOUR
If you are interested in sponsoring a coffee hour please call Bertha Weinberg at 508-586-1030 or contact the Church office.

MONTHLY BULLETIN
Just a reminder that all bulletins are available online or you can pick up your own copy after church services on the last Sunday of the month.

CHURCH SERVICES
SATURDAYS  GREAT VESPERS  6:00 PM
WEEKDAYS  ORTHROS  9:00 AM
          DIVINE LITURGY  10:00 AM
SUNDAYS  ORTHROS  8:45 AM
          DIVINE LITURGY  10:00 AM

ΣΑΒΒΑΤΑ  ΜΕΓΑΣ ΕΣΠΕΡΙΝΟΣ  6:00 MM
ΚΑΘΗΜΕΡΙΝΕΣ  ΟΡΘΡΟΣ  9:00 PM
ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ  10:00 PM
ΚΥΡΙΑΚΕΣ  ΟΡΘΡΟΣ  8:45 PM
ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ  10:00 PM

PARISH NEWS

Choir Notes
The Annunciation Choir wishes to thank all parishioners who contributed to their Annual Church Music Sunday Fund Drive. A total of $200 was collected for this Church Music Ministry.

We’d love to have you!
Do you enjoy singing? The choir welcomes anyone wishing to join the choir in singing the responses of our Divine Liturgy. Please see Heidi after church or you may contact her at 617-710-1159 or email at heidim50@aol.com.

Upcoming Events
Fall General Assembly  Sun. November 20th
Parish Council Elections  Sun. December 4th
Parish Council Oath of Office  Sun. December 18th
Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon  Sun. December 11th
Parish Council Meetings
November  8th
December 13th

Our bookstore offers many items for our parishioners:
- Prayer books
- Incense and censors
- Children’s books (we have new items)
- Books for teens and adults
- The very popular icons of either the girl or boy with the guardian angel. (A great gift item for Baptism)
All icons in stock or upon request.

All our items would make great Christmas gifts for young and old. We also have available Orthodox Christmas Cards to send to family and friends. Icons of a specific saint can be ordered in various sizes.

For those interested in architecture and New England history, we offer a beautiful hardback containing fantastic photos of Greek Orthodox churches throughout New England, including photos inside the churches and brief, engaging community histories.

Also available are the DVD of our Church’s Consecration Service

Please stop by the Bookstore after Divine Liturgy on Sundays

If you are interested in joining the Bookstore Committee, please call the Church Office or see one of our members on Sundays.
Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of Father Anthony Evangelatos and The Parish Council, we are delighted to inform you of two major events to be held in November at our church.

On Tuesday November 15th at 6:30pm, our church has been selected by the Metropolis to host this year’s annual district meeting. The area churches participating in our district include, St. Catherine of Braintree, St. George of Centerville, St. Gregory of Mansfield, and The Nativity of the Virgin Mary of Cohasset. There will be a seminar on Parish Leadership Development. We encourage all ministry leaders and those who inspire to join a ministry to participate in the seminar. A sign up sheet will be posted in the lounge and a light dinner will be served in our community center. This is a wonderful opportunity to share ideas with our brothers and sisters in neighboring churches.

On November 20th, the Fall General Assembly will take place. This year, we’ve made tremendous progress in cost savings, house and grounds improvements, financial systems, stewardship, youth programs, the food festival and many more areas of our church. I highly encourage ALL PARISHIONERS to attend the event. We are always encouraged with your support and feedback.

We appreciate your participation and look forward to seeing everyone at both of these events.

Sincerely,
Parish Council President

John Karolemeas

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

**ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**
**FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 20, 2011**

**AGENDA**

- Secretary’s Report – Spring General Assembly
- Treasurer’s Report: Financial 2011 Year to Date (1/1/11-10/31/11)
- 2011 Food Festival Update
- President’s Remarks
- Fr. Anthony Evangelatos Remarks
- Committee Updates
- Old Business: Stewardship
- New Business:
  - Board of Elections
  - Board of Auditors
  - 2012 Budget
  - Church Improvements

Reminder!!
Please do not forget to submit your 2011 Stewardship Obligation
Stewardships are the greatest source of income for our Church.
Thank you!

Υπενθύμιση !!!
Αγαπητοί Ενορίτες,
Σας παρακαλούμε μη ξεχάσετε να αποτελέσετε την ετήσια προσφορά σας για το παρών (τούτο) το έτος 2011.
Η ετήσια προσφορά σας αποτελεί τη βασικότερη πηγή εισοδήματος για τη συντήρηση και τις καθημερινές ανάγκες της Εκκλησίας μας.
Σας ευχαριστούμε θερμά
The list includes 2010 Stewards and 2011 Stewards in Good Standing. The 2011 Stewardship desirable goal is $150,000 and as of October 20, 2011 we have received $88,850 with 269 pledges. To meet our 2011 desirable goal, we need pledges in the amount of $61,150 to reach our goal. On behalf of Father Anthony, the Parish Council and the Stewardship Committee, we thank all our faithful parishioners for their contributions and support.
Elections for the Parish Council will be held on Sunday, December 4, 2011 from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM. All qualified members of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church are encouraged to submit their names as candidates for the Parish Council elections. This year seven (7) members will be elected to serve a term of (2) years.

APPLICATIONS FOR ELECTIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MAIL OR IN PERSON TO THE CHURCH NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2011

In view of the desire and responsibility to properly and effectively conduct the elections, the following information and reminders are submitted from the Uniform Parish Regulations of Archdiocese.

Eligibility

Article 25, Section 2: A candidate for the Parish Council must be a parishioner in good standing of the Parish for at least one year immediately preceding the date of the election and must live his or her life in accordance with the Faith and canons of the Church. The Priest determines whether the Parishioners are in canonical and financial good standing as specified in Article 18, Sections 1 through 3.

Article 18, Section 1: Every person who is baptized and chrismated according to the rites of the Orthodox Church is a parishioner. The religious, moral and social duties of a parishioner are to apply the tenets of the Orthodox Faith to his/her life and to: adhere to and live according to the tenets of the Orthodox Faith; faithfully attend the Divine Liturgy and other worship services; participate regularly in the holy sacraments; respect all ecclesiastical authority and all governing bodies of the Church; be obedient in matters of the Faith, practice and ecclesiastical order; contribute towards the progress of the Church’s sacred mission; and be an effective witness and example of the Orthodox Faith and Traditions to all people.

A parishioner in good standing practices all the religious and moral duties as described in this Section 1. At a minimum, a parishioner in good standing must: be eighteen years of age or over; be current in his or her stewardship and other financial obligations to the Parish; abide by all the regulations herein stated; and cooperate in every way towards the welfare and well being of the Parish.

APPLICATION FOR PARISH COUNCIL CANDIDACY

I wish to be a candidate for the Parish Council of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Brockton, MA Επιθυμώ να υποβάλω υποψηφιότητα γιά το Γιοικητικό Συμβούλιο της Εκκλησίας μας, του Ευαγγελισμού του Μπρόκτον.

Date: ____________________ Signature of Candidate___________________________

Note: To avoid mistakes on the ballot, please give us the following information:
Print Name: _____________________________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________ Telephone Number______________

Applications for Parish Council Candidacy must be submitted by mail or in person at the Church Office no later than SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2011

Αιτήσεις υποβάλλονται, μεταξύ και τη KYRIAKH 20 NOEMBRIOU 2011

For Office Use Only
Date Received: ___________________

Received By: ____________________
The Reunion of Reunions
New England GOYA & The Glendopetha

Reunite with fellow GOYANS
Join us for a cocktail reception, music and dancing!

Saturday
November 12, 2011
8:00pm-1:00am
Mosely’s on the Charles
50 Bridge Street
Dedham, Massachusetts

Advanced Reservations Required
Admission $40.00 pp before November 1st
($50.00 pp after November 1st, subject to availability)
Payment Options: Check or Online via PayPal
Please make check payable to:
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston Camp
Mail checks to:
Pam Pappas-Clarkin
P.O. Box 6612
Portsmouth, NH 03802-6612
Or
Visit www.goyareunion.org to pay with credit card

For reservations please contact:
Pam Pappas-Clarkin: 603-661-5291
Fran Giannakopoulos: 617-640-2630
Chuck Samiotes: 508-246-8877
Email: goya.reunion@gmail.com
GOYA Reunion on facebook
www.goyareunion.org

*Under 18 must be accompanied by a parent
**Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church**
Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos
George Stavropoulos, Chanter       Heidi Mason, Choir Director
Ona Calogrias, Organist

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<td><strong>Sunday School</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>John Karolemeas, President</td>
<td>Tina Boutas  Dina Coon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven Passias, 1st Vice President Administration</td>
<td>Rhoda Economos</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Papadopoulos, 2nd Vice President Maintenance</td>
<td>Greek School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Lainas, Secretary</td>
<td>Tina Boutas  Argyro Papadopoulos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine Karavites, Treasurer</td>
<td>Vicky Papaoannou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulla Giannaros, Assistant Treasurer</td>
<td><strong>G.O.Y.A.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Members of the Board</strong></td>
<td>Kristen Barrows Jon Buterbaugh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arthur Adamopoulos</td>
<td>Chris Kolentsas</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Alexis</td>
<td><strong>J.O.Y. &amp; H.O.P.E.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jon Buterbaugh Jr.</td>
<td>Irena Mroz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholas Palantzas</td>
<td>Paula Tsitsopoulos</td>
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<td>Ernest Anthony</td>
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<td>Avraam Vardaxis</td>
<td><strong>Koliva</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Executive Board</strong></td>
<td><strong>Coffee Hour</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Despina Papadopoulos, President</td>
<td>Bertha Weinberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heido Barbas, 1st Vice President</td>
<td><strong>Shut-In Visitations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penny Kazis, 2nd Vice President</td>
<td>Soultana Kotsiopoulos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethel Savas, Recording Secretary</td>
<td><strong>Basketball</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tina Boutas, Corresponding Secretary</td>
<td>Steve Passias</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lori Stasiewski, Treasurer</td>
<td><strong>Dance Group</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz Karolemeas, Assistant Treasurer</td>
<td>Jon &amp; Penny Buterbaugh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Members of the Board</strong></td>
<td><strong>Junior Choir</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peggy Cuilla</td>
<td>Corinne &amp; Heidi Mason</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maria Fitopoulos</td>
<td><strong>Oratorical Festival</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Holevas</td>
<td>Rhoda Economos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Marie Horne</td>
<td><strong>Bookstore</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Soultana Kotsiopoulos</td>
<td>Linda Sakelaris Stephen Savas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleni Stamboulidis</td>
<td>Joanna Stellakis Paula Odierno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vasiliki Syrniotis</td>
<td><strong>EMAILS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophia Terzakis</td>
<td><a href="mailto:priest@annunciationbrockton.org">priest@annunciationbrockton.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tina Tsarhopoulos</td>
<td>Church Office <a href="mailto:office@annunciationbrockton.org">office@annunciationbrockton.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Other Ministries**
- **Sunday School**
  - Tina Boutas  Dina Coon
- **Greek School**
  - Rhoda Economos
- **G.O.Y.A.**
  - Tina Boutas  Argyro Papadopoulos
- **J.O.Y. & H.O.P.E.**
  - Vicky Papaoannou
- **Adult Greek Classes**
  - Kristen Barrows Jon Buterbaugh
  - Chris Kolentsas
- **Koliva**
  - Irena Mroz
- **Coffee Hour**
  - Paula Tsitsopoulos
- **Shut-In Visitations**
  - Arthur Krikis
- **Basketball**
  - Steve Passias
- **Dance Group**
  - Jon & Penny Buterbaugh
- **Junior Choir**
  - Corinne & Heidi Mason
- **Oratorical Festival**
  - Rhoda Economos
- **Bookstore**
  - Linda Sakelaris Stephen Savas
  - Joanna Stellakis Paula Odierno

---

**Emails**
- Father Anthony priest@annunciationbrockton.org
- Church Office office@annunciationbrockton.org
- Youth Ministry Team annunciationYMT@yahoo.com
Downsized? Changed jobs?
Help protect your income for retirement.

Call us at 508-230-9988

Stephen Passias, LUTCF
Financial Professional
The Prudential Insurance Company of America
134 Main Street
North Easton, MA 02356

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The Prudential Insurance Company of America, Newark, NJ.
751 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102-3777
0189987-00001-00